IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer for analyzing whole blood which includes a quality control device ~~for a blood analyzer using whole blood~~, said blood analyzer comprising:

means for analyzing patient blood samples;

a quality control device including,

means for storing by refrigeration [[for]] control bloods, ~~bloods;~~

means for restoring ~~to temperature~~ the control bloods to a temperature prescribed by [[the]] a manufacturer of the control bloods, ~~bloods;~~

means for stirring the control bloods for re-suspension of cells, ~~cells;~~ and

means for sampling the control bloods ~~blood thus prepared,~~

~~wherein said quality control device is incorporated into the blood analyzer~~.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 19, wherein the means for storing control bloods comprises a specified number of tubes sealed by a bung and arranged in a tube support in contact with a refrigeration block configured to adjust temperature and maintain an optimum temperature for storing the control bloods.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 20, wherein the refrigeration block is a Peltier effect refrigeration block.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 20, wherein the ~~tube support is disconnected from the refrigeration block for~~ means for restoring the temperature of the control bloods includes the tube support configured to disconnect from the refrigeration block.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 21, wherein the means for restoring includes the Peltier effect refrigeration block configured to receive current which ~~supplying the Peltier effect refrigeration block~~ is interrupted for a specified period of time such that ~~for restoration of~~ the temperature of the control bloods is restored.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 21, wherein the Peltier effect refrigeration block is controlled to be reset and maintain quality control to [[its]] a utilization temperature according to specifications of the manufacturer.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 20, wherein the means for [[the]] stirring includes the tube support articulated about a hinge of the refrigeration block and configured to operate by inverting ~~operates by rocking and/or inversion formed by the tube support articulated about a hinge of the refrigeration block~~.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 25, wherein an angle of inversion of the tube support is between 100° and 180°.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 19, wherein the means for ~~storing~~ stirring includes low-speed Vortex stirring means.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 19, wherein the means for sampling includes a needle configured to draw blood from [[the]] tubes.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 28, wherein the needle is configured to be driven in a transverse movement over [[the]] tubes of patient blood samples to be analyzed and the control bloods as well as over a counting block comprising mixing and rinsing tanks and is configured to be driven in a vertical movement to penetrate into the tubes by piercing [[the]] bungs or by descending into the counting block comprising mixing and rinsing tanks to carry out rinsing or dilutions ~~of the blood~~.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 29, wherein the bungs are configured to be pierced ~~the piercing of the bungs is effected~~ when the tubes on ~~their~~ a support are in a high or low position.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 19, further comprising programmable processing means for checking that values obtained by passing through ~~each~~ a quality control procedure correspond to limit values and expected values of the control blood.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 31, wherein the processing means triggers an alarm [[if]] when the values obtained during running of the quality control procedure are outside the expected values ~~limits~~.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 37 [[19]], ~~further comprising means for~~ wherein the triggering unit ~~a quality control procedure~~ triggers the quality control procedure either directly by an operator input, [[or]] automatically, or via an external connection to a control unit.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 19, wherein transfer and analysis of data are affected via an internal or external network implementing standards of HL7, ASTM, or XML.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A blood analyzer ~~device~~ according to claim 20, wherein the tubes include ~~means for identification and tracking by~~ barcodes, electronic chips, ~~and/or~~ or magnetic labels for identifying and tracking the tubes.

Claim 36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (New): A blood analyzer according to claim 19, wherein the quality control device further includes a triggering unit which triggers a quality control procedure to determine whether the analyzer is functioning properly based on a comparison using the control bloods.

Claim 38 (New): A blood analyzer for analyzing whole blood which includes a quality control device, said blood analyzer comprising:

an analyzing unit which analyzes patient blood samples;

a quality control device including,

a storing unit which stores, by refrigeration, control bloods,

a restoring unit which restores the control bloods to a temperature prescribed by a manufacturer of the control bloods,

a stirring unit which stirs the control bloods for re-suspension of cells, and

a sampling unit which samples the control bloods.